

Pre-decisional Draft, 12/17/10
Section 515 Pre-dissemination Review Documentation and Certification

For Press Release For Jack Dunnigan's Attention For Gary Matlock's Attention

Comments : This paper may lead to efficiencies in collecting fishing activity information from sport anglers. Information on sport fishing activity is often collected through mail and telephone surveys. These surveys may rely on a respondent's memories of a previous year's activity, which is subject to recall errors. Limited research has been conducted to quantify the possible bias caused by recall periods < 1 year. Data from a 1982 mail survey of registered Texas boat owners were used to determine if estimated saltwater sport boat fishing effort differed based on recall periods of 1 month and 1 year. The mean annual number of days of saltwater fishing per registered boat owner was statistically similar for the two recall periods although variances were statistically different. However, the number of days of saltwater fishing was about 7.5 times higher for coastal county residents than for inland county residents. The general pattern of use among boat access types and fishing areas was generally similar for each recall period regardless of county of residence. But, the estimated number of days each access type was used and each area was fished was significantly different between the two recall periods. Saltwater fishing participation estimates based on a 1-year recall could be adjusted using the relationship between the two recall periods to improve accuracy and precision of estimates and reduce sampling costs. Fisheries managers could more effectively monitor changes in fishing activity for possible development of forecasting models.

- I. Author(s) / Location / Title / Availability /Journal of this Information Product: [G.C.Matlock/NCCOS/ Recall Bias in a Sport Fishing Mail Survey/ print / North American Journal of Fisheries Management \(accepted for publication 3-11-10\).](#)
- II. NOS Office/Division Disseminating Information Product: [NOS/NCCOS](#)
- III. Document how the following standards for **utility** are met by the information product:

As a service organization, NOAA conducts research that is applicable to wide variety of constituents.

NOAA disseminates research products in a manner that allows them to be accessible and understandable to a broad range of users.
- IV. Document how the following standards for **integrity** are met by the information product:
 - A. All electronic information disseminated by NOAA adheres to the standards set out in Appendix III, "Security of Automated Information Resources," OMB Circular A-130; the Computer Security Act; and the Government Information Systems Reform Act. [The published version of this paper cannot be altered electronically.](#)
 - B. Confidentiality of data collected by NOAA is safeguarded under legislation such as the Privacy Act and Titles 13, 15, and 22 of the U.S. Code. **This paper contains no confidential**

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data.

- C. Additional protections are provided as appropriate by 50 CFR Part 600, Subpart E, Confidentiality of Statistics of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, NOAA Administrative Order 216-100 – Protection of Confidential Fisheries Statistics.
This report contains no confidential fishery statistics

V. Confirm which category of information products covers this product:

- A. Original Data - go to Section A
- B. Synthesized Products - go to Section B **See Section B**
- C. Interpreted Products - go to Section C
- D. Hydrometeorological, Hazardous Chemical Spill, and Space Weather Warnings, Forecasts, and Advisories - go to Section D
- E. Experimental Products - go to Section E
- F. Natural Resource Plans - go to Section F
- G. Corporate or General Information - go to Section G

I certify that the standards for information quality have been met for this information product.

Signature of Program Office Director

Date

Section A

If the information product falls into the category of “**Original Data**”, document how the standards for **objectivity** are met:

- a. Data are collected according to documented procedures or in a manner that reflects standard practices accepted by the relevant scientific and technical communities.
- b. Original data undergo quality control prior to being used by the agency or disseminated outside of the agency.
- c. The quality control/quality assessment of NOAA data is an on-going process.
- d. NOAA strives for transparency regarding data collection procedures, level of quality, and limitations.

Section B

If the information product falls into the category of “**Synthesized Products**”, document how the standards for **objectivity** are met:

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- a. Data and information sources are identified or made available upon request. All data and information sources are properly cited in the text and have been checked for correctness multiple times through an internal Texas Parks and Wildlife Review, peer review, and editorial processes associated with journal publication.

- b. NOAA uses data of known quality or from sources acceptable to the relevant scientific and technical communities in order to ensure that synthesized products are valid, credible and useful. All methods are documented in detail and have gone through quality checks via internal Texas Parks and Wildlife review, peer review, and editorial processes associated with journal publication.

- c. Synthesized products are created using methods that are either published in standard methods manuals, documented in accessible formats by the disseminating office, or generally accepted by the relevant scientific and technical communities.
The findings and data interpretation have been placed within proper context in the Introduction and Discussion sections of the paper and checked for correctness multiple times through an internal Texas Parks and Wildlife review, peer review, and editorial processes associated with journal publication.

- d. NOAA reviews synthesized products or the procedures used to create them (e.g., statistical procedures, models, or other analysis tools) to ensure their validity.
The data collection and interpretation procedures and been through a rigorous peer review process including internal Texas Parks and Wildlife review, anonymous peer review, and editorial evaluation associated with journal publication.

- e. NOAA includes the methods by which synthesized products are created when they are disseminated or makes them available upon request.
The methods of analysis for the interpreted data are fully transparent and documented in the Methods section of the paper. Data are available upon request from the author.

Section C

If the information product falls into the category of “**Interpreted Products**” document how the standards for **objectivity** are met:

- a. Data and information sources are properly referenced or identified upon request.

- b. Interpreted products are produced using methods that are documented in accessible formats by the disseminating office or generally accepted by the relevant scientific and technical communities.

- c. NOAA puts its interpreted products in context.

- d. Interpreted products are reviewed.

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- e. NOAA includes the methods by which interpreted products are created when they are disseminated or makes them available upon request.

Section D

If the information product falls into the category of “**Hydrometeorological, Hazardous Chemical Spill, and Space Weather Warnings, Forecasts, and Advisories**”, document how the standards for **objectivity** are met:

- a. To the extent possible, NOAA uses data of known quality to provide the best possible information under tight time constraints.
- b. Data and information sources are identified or made available upon request.
- c. To the extent possible, information in this category is produced using methods and techniques that are documented in accessible formats by the responsible office or generally accepted by the relevant scientific and technical communities.
- d. NOAA identifies and tracks performance as a mechanism for evaluating accuracy of warnings, forecasts, and advisories.

Section E

If the information product under review falls into the category of “**Experimental Products**”, document how the standards for **objectivity** are met:

- a. Objectivity of experimental products is achieved by using the best science and supporting studies available, in accordance with sound and objective scientific practices, evaluated in the relevant scientific and technical communities, and peer-reviewed where feasible.
- b. Through an iterative process, provisional documentation of theory and methods are prepared, including the various assumptions employed, the specific analytic methods applied, the data used, and the statistical procedures employed.
- c. Where experimental products are disseminated for experimental use, evaluation or feedback in the form of comment or criticism, the products are accompanied by explicit limitations on their quality or by an indicated degree of uncertainty.
- d. Where experimental products are used by NOAA in support of other NOAA products in urgent situations where the timely flow of vital information is critical, they are used by qualified scientists in conjunction with accepted non-experimental scientific methods and tools, and taking into account all available information.

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Section F

If the information product under review falls into the category of “**Natural Resource Plans**”, document how the standards for **objectivity** are met:

- a. Natural Resource Plans (Plans) are developed according to published standards.
- b. Plans are based on the best information available.
- c. Plans are presented in an accurate, clear, complete and unbiased manner.
- d. Review of Natural Resource Plans, ranging from internal review by staff who were not involved in the development of the product to formal, independent, external peer review, is conducted at a level commensurate with the importance of the interpreted product and the constraints imposed by legally-enforceable deadlines.

Section G

If the information product under review falls into the category of “**Corporate or General Information**”, document how the standards for **objectivity** are met:

- a. Information disseminated by NOAA is reliable and accurate to an acceptable degree of error as determined by factors such as the importance of the information, the intended use, time sensitivity, expected degree of permanence, relation to the primary mission(s) of the disseminating office, and the context of the dissemination, balanced against the resources required and the time available.
- b. Review of corporate and general information disseminated by NOAA is incorporated into the normal process of formulating the information.